

reflective portions to an outer edge 392 of the light pipe where it emits the light to another location positioned away from the location of the light source.

[0104] Any suitable light pipe may be used. For example, the light pipe may be rigid or flexible (as shown). Flexible light pipes allow a wider range of light source positions relative to housing positions. For example, the light source may be positioned in locations that prevent direct exposure to an illuminable portion of the housing, and thus the light pipe may be used to distribute the light to the illuminable portions of the housing by bending around components that prevent direct exposure (e.g., walls, frames and the like). In one embodiment, the light source is housed within an opaque portion of the housing, and a light pipe is used to direct light to an illuminable portion of the housing so as to produce the desired light effect. Furthermore, multiple light pipes may be used to direct light to a plurality of locations around the housing. This may be done with a single light source or multiple light sources. For example, a single light source may be used to provide light to a plurality of light pipes, each of which has one end position proximate the light source and an opposite end positioned in different locations within the housing.

[0105] FIG. 22 is a side view of a light source arrangement 400, in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. By way of example, the light source arrangement 400 may generally correspond to any of the light sources (e.g., light emitting devices) described above. The light source arrangement 400 includes a light source 402 and a light guide 404, which is configured to focus light 406 generated by the light source 402. The light guide 404, which covers a portion of the light source 402, is typically formed from an opaque material such that the light 406 emanating from the light source 402 is only directed out of an opening 408 formed by the light guide 404. In this manner, the light exiting the opening has a shaped configuration that is more intense. The shaped configuration tends to illuminate a smaller portion of the housing than would otherwise be illuminated. The opening 408 may form any number of shapes. For example, the opening may form a circle, an oval, a square, a rectangle, a triangle, a letter, a logo or any other shape. In this particular embodiment, the light guide 404 is configured to cover the sides of the light source 402. In some cases, it may be desirable to use a light guide to block light from reaching light sensitive areas of the electronic device or to prevent heat sensitive areas from becoming too hot.

[0106] FIG. 23 is a side view of a light source arrangement 410, in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. By way of example, the light source arrangement 410 may generally correspond to any of the light sources (e.g., light emitting devices) described above. The light source arrangement 410 includes a light source 412 and a lens 414, which is configured to focus light 416 generated by the light source 412. The lens 414, which is typically positioned between the light source 412 and the illuminable wall (not shown), is arranged to receive light emanating from the light source 412 and to direct the light to a specific area of the illuminable wall. In this manner, the light has a shaped configuration that is more intense. As mentioned above, the shaped configuration tends to illuminate a smaller portion of the housing than would otherwise be illuminated.

[0107] FIG. 24 is a top view, in cross section, of a computer system 420, in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. By way of example, the computer system 420 may generally correspond to any of the computer systems described above. As shown, the computer system 420 includes a housing 422 and a light source 424 disposed therein. In the illustrated embodiment, the housing 422 consists of three parts: end cap 422A, a body 422B and a front face 422C. The end cap 422A closes off one side of the body 422B and the front face 422C closes off another side of the body 422B. Any suitable arrangement of light passing and light blocking walls may be used. In the illustrated embodiment, the end cap 422A and front face 422C are typically formed from a light blocking material while the body 422B is formed from a material that allows the passage of light (e.g., translucent or semi-translucent material). The computer system 420 also includes a reflector 426. The reflector 426 is positioned between the light source 424 (which is located towards the end cap 422A) and the front face 422C. In the illustrated embodiment, the reflector 426 is positioned in front of a display 428. The reflector 426 is configured to redirect the light 430 generated by the light emitting device 424. As shown, the light 430 from the light emitting device 424 is reflected off the surface of the reflector 426 to a first portion 432 of the body 422B. The first portion is defined by B. The reflected light 431 made incident on the inner surface of the body 422B is subsequently transmitted through the wall of the body 422B and out the outer surface of the first portion 432 of the body 422B at the portion 432. Thus, light is prevented from passing through a second portion 434 of the body 422B.

[0108] Although the principles of FIGS. 21-24 are described singularly, it should be noted that they may be combined in some cases to produce other types of light arrangements. For example, any combination of a light pipe, light guide, light lens and/or a reflector may be used to distribute light within a housing.

[0109] FIG. 25 is a simplified diagram of a chameleonic electronic device 440, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. By way of example, the chameleonic electronic device 440 may generally correspond to the chameleonic electronic device 10 shown in FIG. 1. The chameleonic electronic device 440 generally includes a housing 442 that is divided into several independent and spatially distinct illuminable zones 444. As shown, the zones 444 are positioned around the periphery of the housing 442. The periphery may correspond to any portion of the housing such as the top, bottom, and sides of the housing. Any number of zones may be used. In the illustrated embodiment, the housing 442 includes 12 illuminable zones 444. Each of the zones 444 has an associated light element 446, which is disposed inside the housing 442 proximate the zone 444. As should be appreciated, the associated light element 446 is configured to light up its corresponding zone 444 so as to change the ornamental appearance of the housing. By way of example, the associated light element may be an LED array capable of illuminating the corresponding zone with a plurality of colors (e.g., the LED array may include a red, green and blue LED). As shown, each of the zones 444 is configured to provide a light output 448.

[0110] The zones may be configured to produce a variety of ornamental appearances. In one embodiment, the zones are arranged to produce a uniform ornamental appearance.